



**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
South Florida Ecological Services Office**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Fiscal Year 2003



**PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FEBRUARY 1, 2003**

We are seeking proposals on the following:

1. Actions to:
 - Achieve recovery of Federal threatened/endangered/candidate species
 - Restore South Florida ecological communities upon which threatened/endangered/candidate species depend
 - Improve the status of imperiled species/communities so that candidate designation or listing as endangered/threatened does not become necessary
2. Surveys or investigations that address:
 - Critical information needs for developing effective conservation programs for species that are candidates for Federal listing or that are federally listed as threatened/endangered
 - Management and monitoring of threatened/endangered/candidate species and the ecological communities upon which they depend
 - Status of threatened/endangered/candidate species, directed at assessing the effect of known threats to these species, or identifying new threats
 - Identification and assessment of the magnitude of threats to species that may merit federal protection under the Endangered Species Act in the foreseeable future.

We have identified the following needs for which we would like to receive proposals. However, we are accepting proposals on ANY topic that meets the descriptions above.

- Inventory and monitoring of rare species in conjunction with land management on National Wildlife Refuges and other conservation lands
- Status surveys and conservation of rare butterflies in South Florida, especially in the Keys
- Rangewide status survey for Florida tree snails (*Orthalicus* spp., *Liguus* spp.)
- Status survey and taxonomic investigation of the Big Cypress fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger avicennia*)
- Status survey for rare aquatic and terrestrial reptiles and amphibians in South Florida
- Rangewide status survey for federally listed skinks
- Effects of relocating eastern indigo snakes
- Status survey of imperiled estuarine and freshwater fish
- Status survey of the Highlands tiger beetle (*Cicindela highlandensis*)
- Effects of water management on wood storks (*Mycteria americana*), roseate

- spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*), and other wading birds in South Florida
- Distribution and abundance of Florida grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum floridanus*)
- Status survey and conservation of imperiled birds in South Florida
- Status survey and genetics work on the Florida semaphore cactus (*Consolea corallicola*)
- Status surveys of silky bluestem (*Schizocyrium sericatum*) and pinescrub bluestem (*S. niveum*)
- Evaluation of conservation needs for (*Dicerandra immaculata* var. *savannarum*)
- Status survey for the variegated orchid (*Tolumnia bahamensis*)
- Status survey of candidate plant species
- Status surveys of wireweed (*Polygonella basiramia*), sandlace (*P. myriophilla*), and scrub blazing star (*Liatris ohlingerae*)
- Feral cat management and monitoring
- Recovery and reintroduction of the southeastern beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus niveiventris*)

OBJECTIVE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

To receive technically sound and cost effective proposals that address information gaps and implement recovery and restoration actions concerning Federally designated candidate, threatened, and endangered species, and species likely to merit federal protection in the future in South Florida.

MANDATORY QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Proposals must be submitted digitally, preferably via e-mail.
- Proposals, excluding attachments, must not exceed five pages in length with fonts no smaller than 10 point.
- Attach a summary of the qualifications of each principal investigator and co-investigator making significant contributions to the success of the proposed project.
- Proposals that require federal, state, local, or private authorization, such as permits, or permission to access or conduct activities on public or private lands, must demonstrate that they do or will have the authorizations necessary to complete the project.

PROPOSAL FORMAT:

Project Title:

Principal Investigator(s):

Name/Affiliation and contact information

Project Location:

Provide a detailed description or map of the proposed study area, referencing land ownership, as necessary

Objectives:

Project Background:

Purpose/ Relevance to the South Florida Ecosystem:

Study Design:

Expected Benefits from Results:**Cooperators/Partners:****Timeline with Milestones:**

Multi-year projects will be accepted

Project Cost/Budget Breakdown:

Provide an itemized budget, including all indirect or overhead costs; separate annual budgets are necessary for multi-year projects

Literature Cited:**EVALUATION AND AWARD PROCESS:**

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by a process administered by the South Florida Ecological Services Office. Projects will be evaluated on the basis of both scientific merit and cost. We therefore recommend minimizing overhead, indirect costs, and other expenses that will not contribute directly to completing the project. We may contact the principal investigators for projects selected for funding to obtain additional details of the work to be accomplished.

Funding is allocated from a number of distinct line-item appropriations. We do not yet have an approved budget for fiscal year 2003, and we cannot be certain when funding will become available. For a variety of reasons, funds often do not become available until the end of the fiscal year, so some projects may be funded as late as August 2003.

Those proposals not funded during 2003 will be retained and considered for funding in subsequent years. Investigators who have submitted un-funded proposals previously should resubmit updated proposals or notify us if they would like previously submitted proposals considered under this RFP.

EXPECTATIONS:

Upon funding a particular project, we will require semi-annual and final reports on project progress, as well as access to all data, including digital data and photographs. We will work with the principal investigators to ensure that these data will be for internal use only and will not be cited without prior approval. In addition, we request that all manuscripts for publication that result from funded projects be submitted for review to our office prior to submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

Submit proposals to: tylan_dean@fws.gov, or mail disk containing proposal to: Tylan Dean, South Florida Ecological Services Office, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960. An e-mail receipt notification will be sent within three business days of receipt of proposal.